THRESHOLD

March Of Progress

ASHES

(Groom, West)

Here we stand and face the world
Renegades of consternation
Innocent in thought and word
Ready for a new sensation
Block up the dam, close up the well to stop it flowing
Your memory is not preferred
For that is not the way we're going

Sliding away from liberty to lethargy we fall
Subsiding again collapsing from the burden of it all

But time after time we believe in better
Never let a chance pass us by
And we're sure we'll never fail to notice
Sign after sign that a change is coming
Time is running out like the tide
But we think we're on a march of progress

From ashes we rise to ashes we fall
We cannot disguise our hand in it all

Here we stand and take the blame
We thought that this could last forever
We turned our backs on God again
But everybody longs for heaven

Sliding away from vision to deficiency we fall
Subsiding again collapsing from the burden of it all

But time after time we believe in better
Never let a chance pass us by
And we're sure we'll never fail to notice
Sign after sign that a change is coming
Time is running out like the tide
But we think we're on a march of progress

It's senseless to justify consensus
Pretensions to cover our pretences
The fences are sitting on the fences
Defenceless to cover our offences
To cover what we've done

Here we stand and face the end
Apathy alive and growing
On independence we depend
But that is not the way we're going

Sliding away from plenty to dependency we fall
Subsiding again collapsing from the burden of it all

But time after time we believe in better
Never let a chance pass us by
And we're sure we'll never fail to notice
Sign after sign that a change is coming
Time is running out like the tide
But we think we're on a march of progress
But we think we're on a march of progres
But we think we're on a march of progres

RETURN OF THE THOUGHT POLICE

(Groom, West)

From a room in a house on a hill
The world can change on the turn of a will
Ooh there's no need to remind us
Ooh you're killing us with kindness

On the left on the left on the left
A desolate horizon
On the right on the right on the right
A destiny is rising
We forget we forget we forget
The signs and implications
We deny we deny we deny
Our final condemnation

From the dust of oppression and foes
We have risen from our chains
Now the rust of complacency grows
As we give it all away

How did our conscience get so seared
That we could all stand by
As victory disappears before our eyes

We can fight against corruption
We can stand for what is true
But we fall when we surrender
To the corporation view
And our faith can only offer
What we faithfully pursue
I promise you I promise you

On the left on the left on the left
Apostasy has spoken
On the right on the right on the right
Our promises are broken

Damian Wilson

All the things we believe in and know
Fall like targets in a war
All the thoughts we were thinking long ago
Have become unthinkable

How did our conscience get so seared
That we could all stand by
As history disappears before our eyes

We can fight against corruption
We can stand for what is true
But we fall when we surrender
To the corporation view
And our faith can only offer
What we faithfully pursue
I promise you I promise you

It's a silent revolution as so thoughtfully
We're persuaded til we're crushed and jaded
Feigning ignorance faking innocence
To belie our inner voice
They shoot us with ideology kill with policy
So protection overrides objection
Contemplation a violation
Til the memory of freedom is gone
Til the memory of freedom is gone

We can fight against corruption
We can stand for what is true
But we fall when we surrender
To the corporation view
And our faith can only offer
What we faithfully pursue
I promise you I promise you

We can fight against corruption
We can stand for what is true
But we fall when we surrender
To the corporation view
And our faith can only offer
What we faithfully pursue
I promise you I promise you

STARING AT THE SUN

(West)

Well you talk about the way out
Like there's no way out
When you talk about the way out
And you talk about redemption
With a heart of doubt
When you talk about the way out

Well you talk about surrender
Like you know you've lost
When you talk about surrender
Well I hope that you remember
There's a line you cross
When you talk about surrender

Maybe we're meant to bow down
As we enter our darkest hour
But I'll be staring at the sun
Maybe they want us to break
At their pointed display of power
But we have only just begun

Well you talk of intervention
Like a long lost dream
When you talk of intervention
Do you start to feel the tension
Like a heart of steam
When you talk of intervention

Maybe we're meant to bow down
As we enter our darkest hour
But I'll be staring at the sun
Maybe they want us to break
At their pointed display of power
But we have only just begun

Maybe they're stirred by the boundaries
They blurred in their darkest hour
But time will level all they've done
Maybe they want us to break
At their pointed display of power
But we have only just begun

LIBERTY, COMPLACENCY, DEPENDENCY

(Groom, West)

There's a dead sky rising on the dark horizon
With the reason and the rhyme of a hurricane
There's an empire falling and a future calling
As the seasons and the times move on again

Do we find solutions in a constitution
Has the reason we designed it gone away
Do we find repentence to suspend our sentence
Because the seasons and the times don't want to wait

Once there was a city left to ruin
Alone and broken down
The walls that once gave shelter
Are levelled to the ground
Powerless to cope for there was
No-one left to trust
Nothing there to hope for when your
Dreams have turned to dust

The kings are in the counting house
They're counting up their prize
But all that they've accounted
Is the sum of their demise

Won't be moved by what I see
Anger fear and jealousy
Losing hold of liberty
Complacency to apathy
Running wild on make believe
A panacea to legacy
Watch it flow from liberty
To apathy dependency

Karl Groom

Once there was a city from the ashes
Arising up with faith
So eager as she rushes
To make the same mistakes
Our fine veneer of progress
Only covers us so far
It only takes a crisis
To reveal the way we are

The kings are in the counting house
To borrow from their foes
The debts are only mounting
That's the way the money goes

Won't be moved by what I see
Anger fear and jealousy
Losing hold of liberty
Complacency to apathy
Running wild on make believe
A panacea to legacy
Watch it flow from liberty
To apathy dependency

Won't be moved by what I see
Anger fear and jealousy
Losing hold of liberty
Complacency to apathy
Running wild on make believe
A panacea to legacy
Watch it flow from liberty
To apathy dependency

COLOPHON

(West)

The circling ravens are hunting us down
Erudite playthings who lost what we found
But I don't care

Hollow illusions fallen from grace
To a land of confusion there's no such place
And you won't go anywhere
And no-one cares

Avalon nation where is your station now
Because everyone wants to go home
But can't find the way

Honesty hides in the dust of the afterglow
Scattered so wide but we know what we have to know
Lost in the view but ignoring your colophon
Longing to lose our illusion of counting on you
But I'm counting on you I'm counting on you
Did you do all the things that you wanted to do

Nobody noticed the war of the worlds
A paradise broken a planet disturbed
So unaware

The carrion ravens are down for the feast
To feed on the broken the lost and the least
Before they go anywhere
And no-one cares

Babylon nation who's going to save you now
Because everyone opened their homes
And closed off the way

Honesty hides in the dust of the afterglow
Scattered so wide but we know what we have to know
Lost in the view but ignoring your colophon
Longing to lose our illusion of counting on you
But I'm counting on you I'm counting on you
Did you do all the things that you wanted to do

Every image bears the imprint of the master
And the message is the way to ever after

Did you do all the things that you wanted to do
Did you do all the things that you wanted to do
Did you do all the things that you wanted to do
Did you do all the things that you wanted to do

THE HOURS

(West, Anderson)

Everything you want from me
And everything I long to be
Are twisted up and torn
It must be written on the heart of men
To get back on our feet again
To brave another storm

I fight against the hours
I fight against the hours
Until it comes to pass
I stand until my strength is gone
And even then I carry on
Until I'm home at last

Everywhere you promised me
And everywhere I long to be
Are visions through the storm
It's hard to focus when the world's so loud
Enthralling me with sight and sound
But I will not be drawn

I fight against the hours
I fight against the hours
Until it comes to pass
I stand until my strength is gone
And even then I carry on
Until I'm home at last

Day by day my memory fades
And all the gains I made are drifting on the wind
Lost my way my energy wanes
Until I feel no pain but I can't stop the hurting

Richard West

Destiny don't let this dissolution get to me
empathy don't throw awa y the life that's mean't for me

One by one my thoughts are undone
Until my dreams are gone like shadows on the wind
Hope has flown my plans are unknown
I try to call them home but they won't stop deserting

Destiny don't let this dissolution get to me
empathy don't throw awa y the life that's mean't for me

Hours turn to days
Days fade away
Until it comes to pass

I fight against the hours
I fight against the hours
Until it comes to pass
I stand until my strength is gone
And even then I carry on
Until I'm home at last

Until I'm home at last

THAT'S WHY WE CAME

(Wilson)

From the breath of existence
To the dawn that divides these riches
Have you witnessed the pain
That can not be explained

You had no-one to trust
Now you're looking to us

That's why we came
That's why we came

Through the deafening thunder
From the ashes of awe and wonder
As landscapes erase
We are lighting the way

That's why we came
That's why we came
That's why we came

If you've nothing left to be taken away
When there's nothing left
Seems there's nothing to trade
So as you stand alone and face the day
We'll lead the way we'll lead the way

That's why we came
That's why we came

That's why we came
You've witnessed the pain
That's why we came
That can not be explained
That's why we came
As landscapes erase
That's why we came
We're leading the way

DON'T LOOK DOWN

(Groom, West)

Don't look down don't look down
Don't look down don't look down
It's time to shine

You spent your life confessing what was wrong inside
They left you second guessing how to close your mind
So you cry for redemption from all you've thought
Until you wake up tomorrow just the way you were before

So what are you waiting for
Your feet never leave the floor

You're running round in circles like a tethered mare
But there is no exertion that can get you there
So you cry for exemption from all you've done
And try to shake off the sorrow over all that you've become

So what are you waiting for
Your feet never leave the floor

We're looking out for a leader to believe in
For a watcher of the sky
Don't want a pretender to deceive us
Or a demon in disguise
So if you can live through the shadow of our eyes
We'll come to receive you because we need to
In a world that's born to fly

Hesitation has a strong design
But every good intention slowly fades with time
And your forced hibernation is no retort
Because you wake up tomorrow just the way you were before

So what are you waiting for
Your feet never leave the floor

We're looking out for a leader to believe in
For a watcher of the sky
Don't want a pretender to deceive us
Or a demon in disguise
So if you can live through the shadow of our eyes
We'll come to receive you because we need to
In a world that's born to fly

Staring at the endless sky longing for the clouds to take you
Looking for a promised time hoping that it won't forsake you
There's nothing you can do about the wasted years
The battle brought the mettle that makes you
You don't need an angel to carry you here
And you don't need a devil to break you

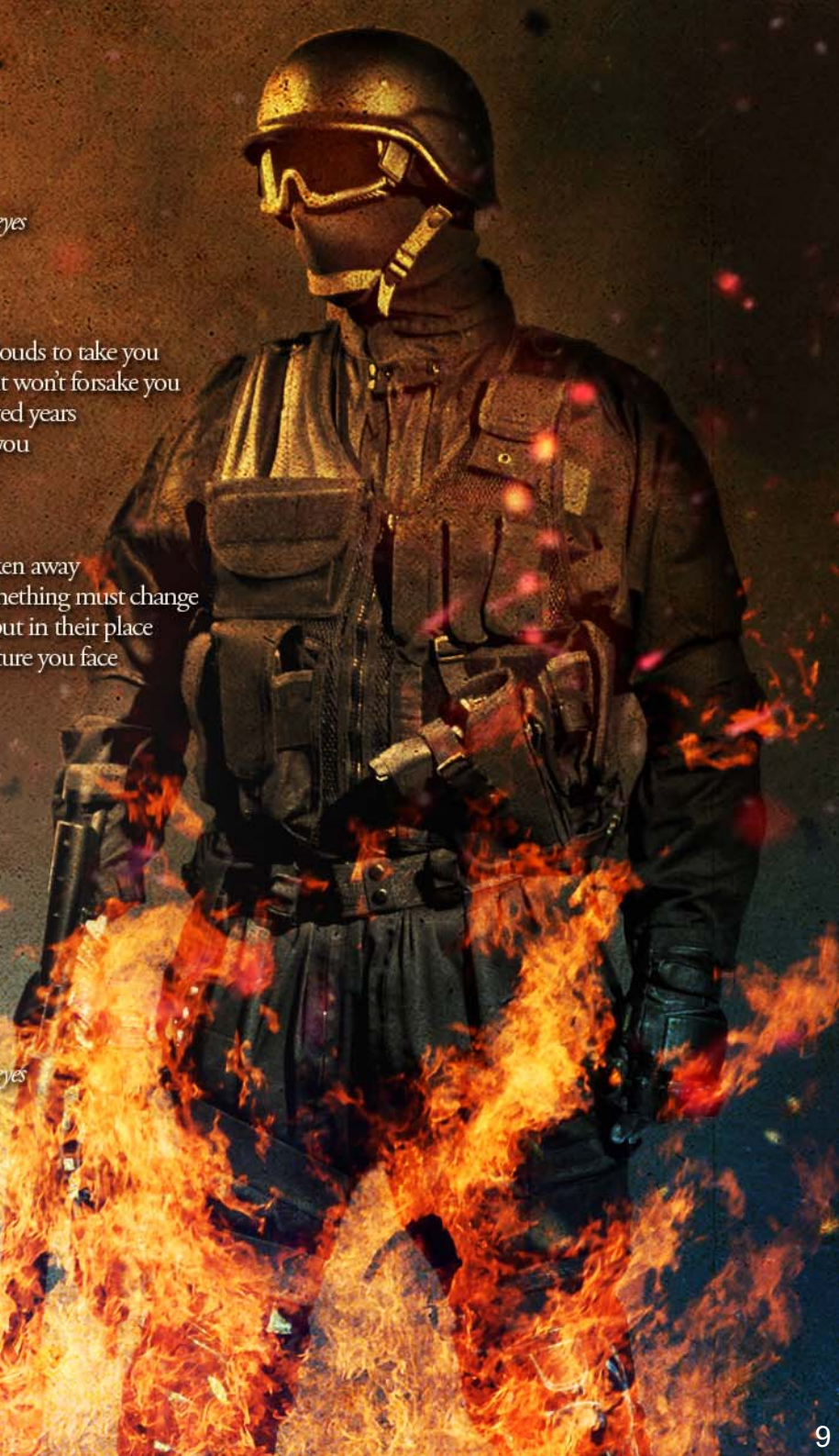
When all your reason and reference are taken away
And you believe in the perception that something must change
When all your credence and candour are put in their place
You'll find the boldness to abandon the future you face

Don't look down don't look down
Don't look down don't look down
It's time to shine

So what are you waiting for
Your feet never leave the floor

We're looking out for a leader to believe in
For a watcher of the sky
Don't want a pretender to deceive us
Or a demon in disguise
So if you can live through the shadow of our eyes
We'll come to receive you because we need to
In a world that's born to fly

Don't look down don't look down
Don't look down don't look down
It's time to shine



CODA

(Morten)

I will break down this belief
Exhibitions of the weak
Sunken eyes that now behold
You and I held in relief
Like the parting of the sea
Fatal inhibitions
As my purpose now unfolds
I will break down these walls

I will break down these walls
I will break down these walls
I will break down these walls
I will break down these walls

I am flame desire burning your heart
I am damned forever failing to start
And when the spirit departs
I'll walk with god in the stars

I am black the shades of grey in your white
I am back assigning blame when you're right
And your wrongs repeating time after time

Face down now in amongst your mistakes now
Drown open mouthed no escape now allowed
The fight is still on despite all you've become
Now remain brave now fight because you
Can save somehow what was lost
Remember the power you found
As you made up lost ground

I will break down this belief
Exhibitions of the weak
Remember remember
You and I held in relief
Like the parting of the sea
Remember remember

I have found the roots of man in the earth
To the ground we walk with consciousness blurred
Only with the blueprint submerged can we finally learn

Icon crowned forging wounds in the skin
Last in line for redemption within
Without the scars that you've carried
Your renewal begins

Face up now take your place on the stage and bow
To the crowds now devout and proud
We look to the sun now your life's work is done
Celebrate out loud raise your voice to the sky and shout
We're sorry we've lost you
Remember all that you gave
In our hearts shall remain

I will break down this belief
Exhibitions of the weak
Remember remember
You and I held in relief
Like the parting of the sea
Remember remember

I will break down this belief
Exhibitions of the weak
Remember remember
You and I held in relief
Like the parting of the sea
Remember remember

THE RUBICON

(Groom, West)

Out across the water staring to the shore
Standing on the threshold of a dream
No prior warning no overture
Just a sudden ocean from the stream

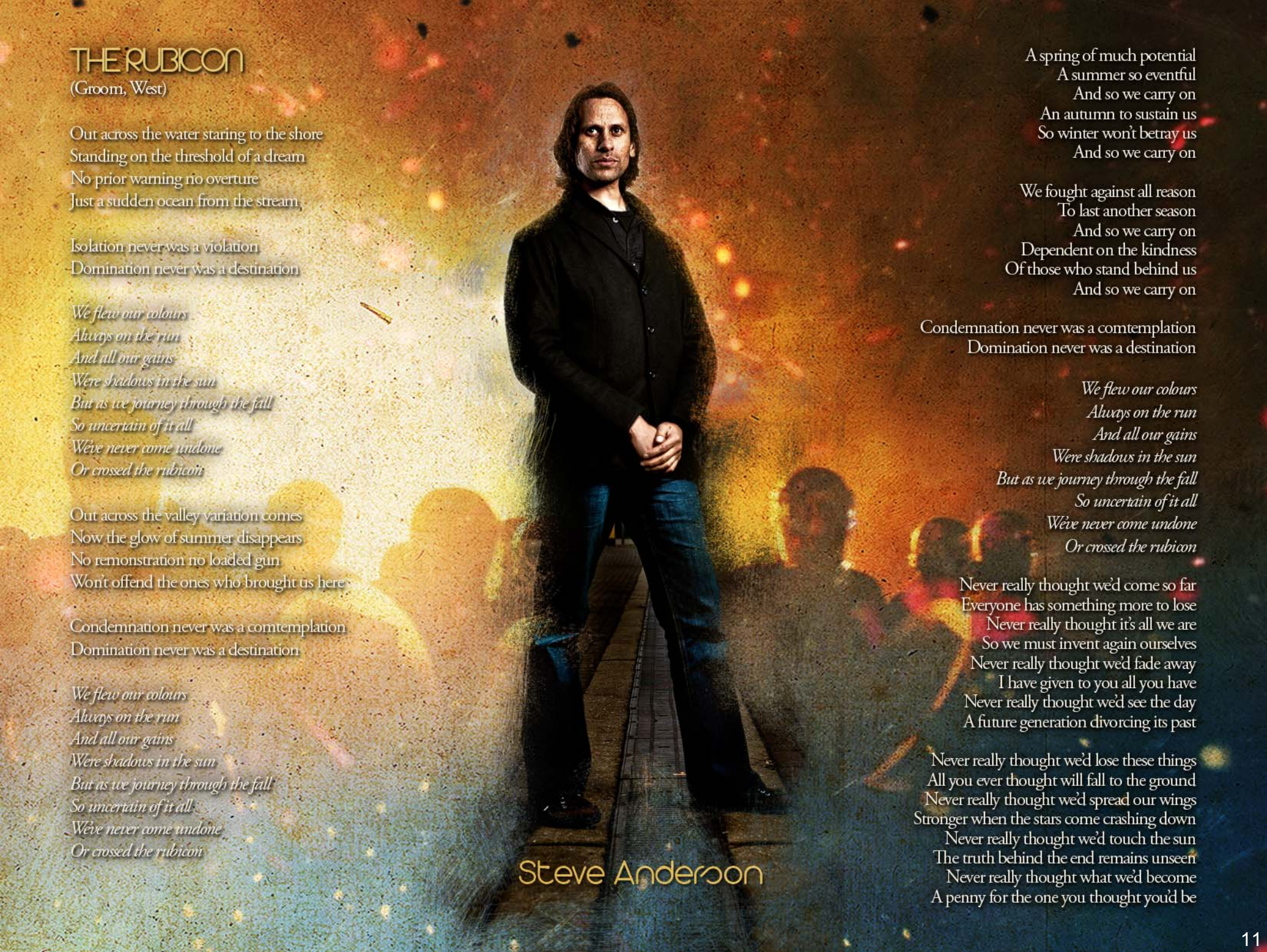
Isolation never was a violation
Domination never was a destination

We flew our colours
Always on the run
And all our gains
Were shadows in the sun
But as we journey through the fall
So uncertain of it all
We've never come undone
Or crossed the rubicon

Out across the valley variation comes
Now the glow of summer disappears
No remonstration no loaded gun
Won't offend the ones who brought us here

Condemnation never was a comtemplation
Domination never was a destination

We flew our colours
Always on the run
And all our gains
Were shadows in the sun
But as we journey through the fall
So uncertain of it all
We've never come undone
Or crossed the rubicon



A spring of much potential
A summer so eventful
And so we carry on
An autumn to sustain us
So winter won't betray us
And so we carry on

We fought against all reason
To last another season
And so we carry on
Dependent on the kindness
Of those who stand behind us
And so we carry on

Condemnation never was a comtemplation
Domination never was a destination

We flew our colours
Always on the run
And all our gains
Were shadows in the sun
But as we journey through the fall
So uncertain of it all
We've never come undone
Or crossed the rubicon

Never really thought we'd come so far
Everyone has something more to lose
Never really thought it's all we are
So we must invent again ourselves
Never really thought we'd fade away
I have given to you all you have
Never really thought we'd see the day
A future generation divorcing its past

Never really thought we'd lose these things
All you ever thought will fall to the ground
Never really thought we'd spread our wings
Stronger when the stars come crashing down
Never really thought we'd touch the sun
The truth behind the end remains unseen
Never really thought what we'd become
A penny for the one you thought you'd be

DIVNITY

(Morten)

As one man's will declines
Gone are his reasons and rhyme
At odd with awkward evens
Stand your ground to be believed in
To those who already shine
How did it feel when you switched sides
I guess I'll know I guess I'll know given time

See this side of me these humble offerings
From this well hope still brings my enemy
As my pride lays crumbling
So down comes everything
With a heavy heart this sadness brings my destiny

It's one man's will to rise
So precise the predictable line
Anchor the body and prepare to breathe in deep
Can you see what's in my mind
The reaching point of reaching pride
Although it's hard I guess my heart can't lie

See this side of me these humble offerings
From this well hope still brings my enemy
As my pride lays crumbling
So down comes everything
With a heavy heart this sadness brings my destiny

Seasoned minds will bring these humble offerings
From this well hope still brings my purity
You've seen me stumbling
With a thankful heart I spread my wings
Divinity

Pete Morten

In the quiet of the mind
The fog of memory is formed
The gravity of its charge
States that you reclaim it
Amongst the trails here you will find
Visual echoes that conform
To the divine in all its parts
This path you have laid it

If you were ever needing proof
Just follow now your inner truth to guide you
Don't give doubt the space to confuse you
There's no room in here
If you were ever feeling moved
To shape this coming life renewed
I excuse you as your guardian
I choose you to me it's clear

I excuse
We excuse you
We all excuse you
We won't lose you

See this side of me these humble offerings
From this well hope still brings my enemy
As my pride lays crumbling
So down comes everything
With a heavy heart this sadness brings my destiny

Seasoned minds will bring these humble offerings
From this well hope still brings my purity
You've seen me stumbling
With a thankful heart I spread my wings
Divinity

Ashes

Karl: This always sounded like an opening song, although the structure allows for an extended instrumental section. It was my first composition to come together and has a really positive sound. Knowing Damian was going to be singing let me visualize how he would perform and the chorus represents him perfectly.

Return of the Thought Police

Karl: In many ways this song was easy to put together. It felt like a new kind of sound when I was writing and there was never a worry of repeating anything we had done on previous albums. I think not covering the same ground is the hardest thing when you have eight studio albums behind you. The band seemed to react well immediately and this is very close to the original demo in all parts. At the time I started working on this, we only had one song from other writers in the band (Colophon). I imagined this could be our shortest CD to date. How wrong I was when we ended up with around 75 minutes.

Staring at the Sun

Rich: Staring At The Sun reminded me of the writing process for Light And Space, because it was one of those songs that came just a line or two at a time until the whole thing was complete. So I was just enjoying how the song was growing without knowing where it would go next. Once I'd got to the end of the chorus I thought it could've opened up into a long complex epic, but I decided to keep it compact to give the album a balance of short and long songs.

Liberty, Complacency, Dependency

Karl: I think this track aligns with a combination of Threshold arrangements from the past. I see elements of sounds from Psychedelicatessen (twin soloing in the form of A Tension Of Souls), Extinct Instinct (the intro has the atmosphere of Somatography), and Clone (the chorus slows in the way Life's Too Good does) in the way it is put together. However, it is very much played and recorded in our more recent ways. To that end, the bass leads on the intro and there is an atmospheric solo.

Colophon

Rich: Colophon was the first song I wrote for the album, most of the music for this song being written in 2009 before I completed the closing section and lyrics a couple of years later on. Using clean guitar riffs for the foreground wasn't a usual way of working for Threshold, so originally I wasn't sure how this would convert into a Threshold context. But it's good to keep pushing forward with fresh thoughts and ideas, and fortunately Karl's very accommodating when it comes to all the different song styles we throw to him!

The Hours

Rich: The Hours started out as a small three line piano ballad with a classical feel and a change of key for the chorus. I also had a more complex progressive piece that I wanted to use for the middle section. Then at the start of 2011 Steve sent me some ideas he'd been working on, and one of them was this wonderful riff that turned out to be the perfect segue between the original song and the softer progressive section. Before the last chorus I dropped everything down to just the piano as a reminder of how the song was originally formed.

That's Why We Came

Damian: Faced by the world we are driven to build, putting a price on our progress. This song celebrates what has true value and power to unite. It was a simple idea that only really came together with the input of the band. Richard travelled over to the boat where I lived, to work on it, and by the time we arrived at Thin Ice Studios and Karl and the guys had made their mark, the track had come to life.

Don't Look Down

Karl: Damian arrived in the studio not knowing anything of this song, but instinctively gave the kind of performance I always wanted. There are so many instrumental parts and a big shift in mood during the middle section, but I always remember it for its uplifting chorus. It was enjoyable to work in a brief drum solo and I was grateful that Johanne improved the feel considerably on what I programmed for this part!

Coda

Pete: Coda discusses the fallibility that is in all of us. We each carry a set of strengths and weaknesses in equal measure. But the song also comes from an esoteric perspective in that it ponders the possibility that our weaknesses are pressed upon us to test us in this life. Therefore if we over rule these weaknesses there is a spiritual and karmic reward. The last verse and second pre-chorus are my homage to Mac who sadly passed away last year.

The Rubicon

Karl: This was the first song I started writing in December 2010 and the last to be finished. It was a through composition in so much as the song was written chronologically. The epic end section became an obsession that had to have the, previously unheard of in Threshold, pipe organ. Probably a shock to Rich at first, but when I gave him alternatives we came back to the original. This song holds all that is good about Threshold for me and was the perfect way to play out this album.

Divinity (Bonus Track)

Pete: I knew from the moment I was invited to write for a new Threshold record, that I wanted to write something based on me actually joining the band. I have always felt a definite sense of destiny surrounding me joining the fold. This song simply talks about that 'sense-of-plan' and what I've been through privately as life has happened to me since 2007 to the present.

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Damian Wilson - vocals
Karl Groom - guitar
Richard West - keyboards
Johanne James - drums
Steve Anderson - bass
Pete Morten - guitar

Backing vocals by Damian Wilson except on The Rubicon by Damian Wilson, Karl Groom and Richard West.

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Karl Groom uses Ibanez and Rocktron
Richard West uses Korg keyboards
Steve Anderson uses Mark Bass

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1. Ashes | 2. Return of the Thought Police | 3. Staring at the Sun
4. Liberty, Complacency, Dependency | 5. Colophon | 6. The Hours
7. That's Why We Came | 8. Don't Look Down | 9. Coda | 10. The Rubicon

(Bonus Track)

11. Divinity